

Susie Jenkins-Brito, Dillingham, AK - Personal Comment

Proposal 23 Allow the use of snowmachine to position wolf or wolverine for harvest in Unit 17 - SUPPORT

I am commenting in regards to the Board Member Huntington's request for comment on AWT's need for the word "position" to be defined in regulation.

During several Nushagak Advisory Committee meetings the discussion of **positioning game with a snowmachine** for harvest has been widely agreed upon as the method of a hunter encouraging or guiding an animal to move in a direction or to a location where the hunter may then stop the snowmachine and shoot the animal.

The intent is clear but the onus of creating regulatory language should fall to the Regulations Specialist.

In the instance of "Assist" being specifically defined for Unit 17 the history of the regulation was to specifically prohibit the chasing of caribou with a snowmachine.

This language of "positioning" already exists in multiple locations throughout regulations for example:

5 AAC 92.080. Unlawful methods of taking game; exceptions

(4) (B) (i) in Units 22, 23, and 26(A), **a snowmachine may be used to position** a caribou, wolf, or wolverine for harvest, for harvest, and caribou, wolves, or wolverines may be shot from a stationary snowmachine;

(vii) in Unit 18, **a snowmachine may be used to position** a wolf or wolverine for harvest, and wolves or wolverines may be shot from a stationary snowmachine;

(viii) in Unit 17, **a snowmachine may be used to assist** in the taking of a caribou and caribou may be shot from a stationary snowmachine. "Assist in the taking of a caribou" means a snowmachine may be used to approach within 300 yards of a caribou at speeds under 15 miles per hour, in a manner that does not involve repeated approaches or that causes a caribou to run. A snowmachine may not be used to contact an animal or to pursue a fleeing caribou.